

Y.W.C.A. - 1937

Open Girls' Home In New Haven

NEW HAVEN, Conn., Feb. 5—The Women's Civic League, Inc., held a grand opening ceremony here Sunday Jan. 31, of the new Wheatley Home for Young Colored Women and Girls at Canal St. off Webster. This is the first institution of its kind to be set up in New Haven.

TRIBUTES TO MADAM SCOTT

Retires As Treasurer Of

137th Street Y After 32
Years Of Service

By LUCIEN H. WHITE

After thirty-two years of faithful and meritorious service, Mme. Virginia E. Scott has retired from active holding of the office of treasurer of the West 137th Street Branch of the Young Women's Christian Association of the City of New York.

And so it was that the committee, staff, and members of the Branch, together with friends of the community, took the opportunity afforded by the annual meeting of the organization to pay tribute to Mme. Scott "for her long years of faithful intelligent and unselfish service in the Branch."

The entire program for the occasion had for its central purpose and aim a "Testimonial of love and gratitude" to this distinguished and consecrated woman.

The auditorium of the Y. W. C. A. building on West 138th street was filled with friends and admirers of Mme. Scott, and officers and members of the organization, when Mrs. Ernest R. Alexander, chairman of the Branch Committee of Management, opened the session with an eloquent and choicely worded invocation. Reading of the minutes of the 1936 annual meeting by Mrs. Cornelia P. Pinckney, recording secretary, and submission of the 1936

annual report by Mrs. Cecelia Cabaniss Saunders executive secretary of the Branch, were followed by the report of the nominating committee, naming officers for 1937, by Mrs. Pinckney, chairman of that committee. Then Miss Flora Thomas, pianist, of the Branch's Department of Music, was presented and played a group of compositions for piano-forte—"The Dancer in the Patio" by Repper and "Polichinelle" by Debussy. This eminent young musician played brilliantly and was given great appreciation by the gathering.

Mrs. Alexander Pays Tribute

Mrs. Alexander opened the expressions of tributes to Mme. Scott by speaking of Mme. Scott's "Contribution to the Branch," reciting in how many ways, aside from her official duties Mme. Scott had radiated an influence that materially assisted her fellow workers in meeting their problems with wisdom and vision.

In the absence of the Rev. Dr. A. Clayton Powell, of the Abyssinian Baptist Church, of which Mme. Scott is a member, her "Contribution to the Church" was told of by the Rev. A. Clayton Powell, its present pastor, who said that the richest man in the world was not the one who possessed the greatest amount of worldly goods, but he who, as had Mme. Scott, gave unselfishly and wholly of themselves for the benefit of their fellowman.

Mrs. William Henry Hayes, treasurer for the Metropolitan Board referred back to the "horse and buggy days" of thirty-two years ago, when this Branch was organized, and commented on the many wonderful changes and developments that had come to pass since then. She declared that the manner in which Mme. Scott had performed the onerous task laid on her was indicative of the "splendid heritage" which must have been hers. On behalf of the Metropolitan Board, Mrs. Hayes presented Mme. Scott with a beautiful corsage of flowers.

Miss Thomas was again present. Incidentally, Mme. Scott emphasized the fact that while she was retiring from office she was Spiritual "Sometimes I feel like a Motherless Child," at which time Mrs. Alexander told of the fine work Miss Thomas is doing for the Branch, and gave notice of a piano recital which Thomas is to play at Steinway Hall on the evening of March 14.

Presented Token

Mrs. Lucy E. Carter, a charter member of the Branch, and who served in the beginning as assistant treasurer with Mme. Scott was introduced by the chairman, to make a presentation to the guest of honor on behalf of the members of the Y. W. C. A. Mrs. Carter expressed keen gratification at being able to be present and take part in this tribute to her friend and co-worker, and presented Mme. Scott with a token of the members' appreciation accompanied by a scroll bearing the names of all who had subscribed.

In a sincere and heart-touching way, Mme. Scott responded, uttering thanks to all for the wonderful evidences of their love and appreciation, and giving some intimate incidents in connection with her long tenure in office. She voiced her love for the work, and especially for the opportunities afforded to contact the young folks. She referred to her principal activity, music, and to the many times she had been made happy by the thought that she had rendered service of consequence to young people. She served twenty-five years as organist for Abyssinian, and twenty-six years at St. Paul Baptist Church, the Rev. H. Arthur Booker pastor, having retired December 31, 1935.

Editor Fred R. Moore, of The New York Age, was seated on the rostrum, and was presented by the chairman. Mr. Moore referred to activities of the Y. W. C. A. in which he had an active part since its old days in 53rd and 132nd streets, to his long friendship and admiration of the sterling qualities exhibited by Mme. Scott, and paid a fine tribute to the executive secretary, Mrs. Saunders.

Reception Follows Meeting

Following the meeting scores of friends assembled at the platform to greet and felicitate the guest of honor, and a reception followed in the foyer of the building.

The executive secretary's annual report, covering a review of the work of all the departments, is published in full in the February

ary "Y-Level," the organization publication, giving an interesting and valuable epitome of the manner in which resources of the organization are used for the benefit of the women and girls of the community.

RETIRES



Mme. V. E. SCOTT

High Point N. C. Enterprise
April 6, 1937

YWCA Club Hears Program On Negro Poetry, Spirituals

The Florence Nightingale club, at the regular meeting last evening, heard an interesting program of Negro poetry presented by John Mebane, city editor of the Enterprise. Mr. Mebane, read poems by Langston Hughes, Sterling Brown, Countee Cullen and other outstanding Negro poets, after which the East Green Street quartet sang a group of Negro spirituals.

This quartet is composed of Paul and Wade Koontz, Ray Cross and Julian Lytel, who gave a splendid program.

At the meeting next Monday evening, Mrs. J. E. Millis will present a program on her recent North Cape trip.

WILBERFORCE SCENE OF NATIONAL 'Y' MEET

WILBERFORCE, O. —(ANP)— One hundred and fifty delegates from fifty-one cities of twenty-six states, from points as distant as Colorado and Texas, Florida and New York, met this week at the National Y. W. C. A. Conference for Negro leadership. For the second time Wilberforce University has been host to the conference, which is under the able administration of Mrs. Cordella Winn, assisted by Miss Frances Williams and Miss Marion Cuthbert, all of the National staff of the Y. W. C. A.

These three National staff members compose a unique and dynamic trio—Marion Cuthbert who has the responsibility for program planning; Mrs. Winn, the able administrator, who throws into action the machinery necessary for correlating plans and details into the cohesive, purposeful whole that is the conference; and the vital Frances Williams, teaching, and bringing life and color to complete it.

Y. W. Studying Itself

The Branch Conference is directed toward building a program for more effective and far reaching work in the Negro Community and to stimulate greater participation on the part of the Negro constituency in the Association. The Y. W. C. A. is experiencing a period of self searching and self study. And so a program of greater integration of all the work presupposes acquaintance, familiarity and a feeling of "at home-ness" with all of the various objectives and techniques which the Association brings to play in its program

of achieving a "Fellowship of women and girls devoted to realizing in their common lives ideals of personal and social living to which they are committed by their faith as Christians."

Dr. Gertrude Wilson, Field Instructor in Group Work at Western Reserve University, opened the conference with an address on "Group Work Today." Dr. Wilson traced the development of group work from the first leader-controlled programs to the present development of social work techniques based on scientific knowledge of groups and individuals.

Miss Frances Williams with imitable humor coupled with very real earnestness directed the laboratory period devoted to actual program making. She urged a "more sophisticated Negro child," defining sophistication as that sense of confidence and self respect that comes with racial appreciation, a knowledge of the worth of Negroes, familiarity with Negro achievement and contemporary personalities of distinction.

Other features of the Conference were a seminar on the health and recreation problems of Negro Women and Girls, a most vital subject and ably handled by Miss G. Bobbie Baker of the Cincinnati Association, and the exceptional manner in which the direction of the conference was handled by Mrs. Sarah Hill Long of the Wichita Association.

Assisting Mrs. Winn in the management of the Conference were Miss Virginia K. Jones, Cincinnati Association, Registrar; Mrs. Alice Warner Parhan, Youngstown Association, hostess; and Mrs. Jannie L. Maxwell, Winston-Salem Association, Macon, Ga., News.

Associated with Miss Williams in the laboratory period were Mrs. Louise Parrott Cochran of the New York Association, Miss Margaret Williamson of the National Board Y. W. C. A. staff, and Miss Irene Harris of the Indianapolis Association.

As part of the program building period Miss Viola T. Lewis of the Dayton Association discussed the subject of Record Keeping.

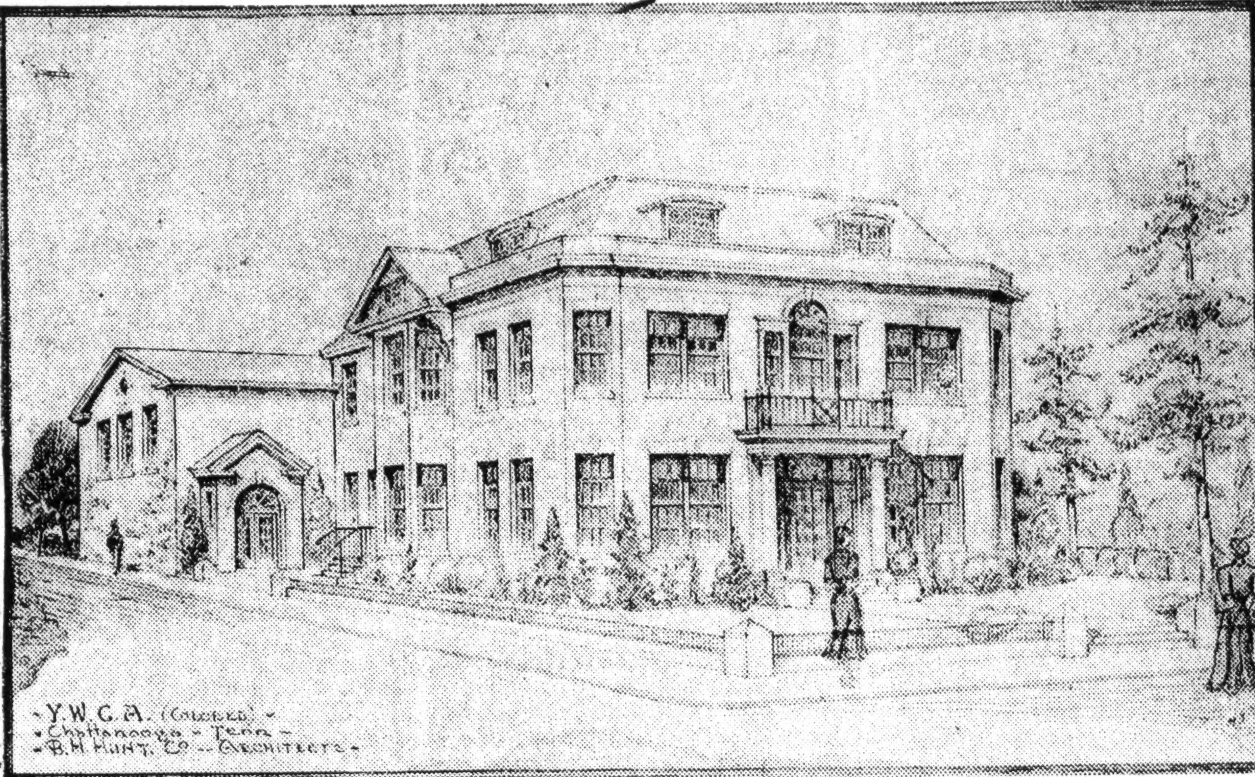
Particularly valuable contributions to the conference sessions have been made by other members of the National staff, Miss Ethel Cutler, a scholar of ancient and contemporary religions, Miss Mildred Corbett, Nat'l Service Division, Miss A. Elizabeth Leel executive of the Leadership Division of the Nat'l Staff. In her address on Thursday evening Miss Neely stressed the role that the Y. W. C. A. must accept in strengthening its own structure and in the broader scope of national political life.

On Friday evening, Mrs. John W. Evans, District Superintendent of the Provident Association of St. Louis and Thyra Edwards, social worker of Chicago and foreign correspondent of The Woman Today magazine, were yuest speakers.

Miss Edwards talked on Social Responsibility emphasizing the responsibility of social workers to become a functioning part of community life and of public affairs, and the necessity of cutting across group and professional lines to make an integrated community life and ultimately an integrated, democratically functioning national life.

Chattanooga, Tenn. News
August 15, 1937

Proposed Negro Y. W. C. A.



The architect's drawing of the proposed new Y. W. C. A. building for Negroes at 924 East Eighth Street, is shown above.

The campaign has been started by interested white and colored citizens to raise \$12,000 necessary to making the proposed building a reality.

The property once occupied by the Trimble Funeral Home has been bought and paid for by the group. Extensive repairs, alterations and additions are needed to make the building suitable for Y. W. C. A. purposes.

The colored Y. W. C. A. has outgrown the present quarters on East Eighth Street.

She has been with the national YWCA staff since 1918.

A meeting of Negro women with Mrs. Winn, and Mrs. Earle Strickland, general secretary of the local YWCA will be held Monday night

Branch Y Planned For Negroes Here

Negroes Admitted To Girl Reserves

Interracial Committee to Discuss Work on Monday

The Interracial committee of the Young Women's Christian Association will meet at 11 o'clock Monday morning at which time Cordelia Winn, Negro national staff secretary, will discuss with them the work of a Negro branch. The meeting will be held in the "Y" office at 453 Cherry street.

She is a member of the National Services division, engaged in helping to organize new Negro branches wherever possible. She is a graduate of the normal school at Columbus, Ohio, and has taken special courses at Columbia University and at the Russell Sage Foundation

The YWCA board of directors has approved plans for acceptance of Negro memberships through the local organization, Mrs. A. S. Grinalds, president, announced yesterday.

The membership fees, accepted by the white organization, will be turned back to the Negroes. The work at present is mainly in the Girl Reserve division, with Birdie Holbrook serving as Negro Girl Reserve secretary.

About 200 Negro members are planning to build a clubhouse and conduct an active program, Mrs. Grinalds said.